

## Message Text

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73

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 EB-11 OIC-04 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FMC-04 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02

AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 NEA-10 DOTE-00 L-03 RSR-01 /116 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9686

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, UN

SUBJECT: SELECTION OF IMCO SECRETARY GENERAL

REF: LONDON 2860

SUMMARY: IMCO SYG CANDIDATE MENSAH HAS ANALYZED HIS VOTING STRENGTH IN COUNCIL AND CONCLUDES THAT HE AND SRIVASTAVA HAVE SIX PROBABLE VOTES EACH, WITH REMAINING SIX UNDER INFLUENCE UNITED KINGDOM AND UNITED STATES. IF HE SECURES UK- US SUPPORT HE RECKONS HE WILL WIN. GOVERNMENT OF GHANA MOUNTING CAMPAIGN TO SECURE BACKING FOR MENSAH AMONG COUNCIL AND OTHER IMCO MEMBERS. IF BEFORE VOTING IN JUNE COUNCIL SESSION MENSAH FEELS HE WILL NOT SUCCEED, HE PLANS TO WITHDRAW IN FAVOR OF SRIVASTAVA AND OFFER TO STAY ON AT IMCO FOR TRANSITIONAL PERIOD. END SUMMARY.

1. AT MENSAH INITIATIVE WE MET WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS ANALYSIS OF WHERE IMCO COUNCIL STANDS AT PRESENT WITH RESPECT VARIOUS CANDIDATES. ON ASSUMPTION THAT COUNCIL GENUINELY SEEKING DEVELOPING COUNTRY CANDIDATE, MENSAH WOULD EXPECT BREUER OF FRG AND SCHULD OF NETHERLANDS QUIT BEFORE BALLOT OR AFTER FIRST BALLOT, LEAVING FIELD TO HIMSELF AND SRIVASTAVA. AT PRESENT SRIVASTAVA WOULD

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COMMAND VOTES OF INDIA, USSR AND POLAND; FRANCE, ITALY AND BELGIUM WOULD PROBABLY ALSO LINE UP ON INDIAN SIDE. MENSAH WOULD GET VOTES OF GHANA, CANADA, AUSTRALIA AND BRAZIL; ALGERIA AND JAPAN WOULD PROBABLY ALSO SUPPORT HIM. REMAINING COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE FRG, GREECE, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, UNITED KINGDOM AND UNITED STATES. MENSAH FEELS THAT FIRST FOUR COUNTRIES IN THIS CATEGORY WOULD FOLLOW LEAD OF UNITED KINGDOM AND UNITED STATES ( AFTER FRG AND NETHERLANDS FREE OF COMMITMENT TO RESPECTIVE NATIONALS). MENSAH CONCLUDES THAT IF UNITED KINGDOM AND UNITED STATES DECIDE TO BACK HIM, HE WILL HAVE EASY VICTORY. IF THEY DO NOT, OR IF ONE OR THE OTHER DOES NOT, HE RECKONS HE IS IN TROUBLE.

2. ACCORDING TO MENSAH, GOVERNMENT OF GHANA HAS AFFIRMED ITS INTEREST IN HIS ELECTION TO SYG OFFICE. MENSAH HAS DRAFTED A NOTE VERBALE, A VERITABLE LAWYER'S BRIEF, WHICH ACCRA WILL SEND TO GOG MISSIONS IN COUNCIL CAPITALS AND IN CAPITALS SELECTED OTHER IMCO MEMBER COUNTRIES REQUESTING " FULLEST SUPPORT" OF HOST GOVERNMENTS FOR MENSAH. ADVANCE COPIES NOTE VERBALE POUCHED MARCH 14 ATTENTION IO/ TRC GRIP AND EB/ MA WEBB. GOG WILL MAKE OTHER EFFORTS ASSURE MENSAH SUCCESS IN ELECTION, INCLUDING DISCUSSIONS WITH INDIA. ( SINCE UNITED KINGDOM AND UNITED STATES CONSIDERED KEY COUNTRIES, WE ANTICIPATE HIGH LEVEL APPROACHES BY GOG TO LONDON AND WASHINGTON.)

3. IF ALL OF THIS ACTIVITY DOES NOT RESULT IN ASSURANCE THAT HE WILL WIN, MENSAH INFORMED US THAT HE WILL WITHDRAW IN FAVOR OF SRIVASTAVA. EXACT TIMING THIS POSSIBLE MOVE WILL DEPEND ON DEVELOPMENTS BETWEEN NOW AND COUNCIL MEETING IN JUNE. IF CIRCUMSTANCES FORCE HIM TO PULL OUT AND SRIVASTAVA SURE WINNER, MENSAH SAID HE WOULD OFFER TO CONTINUE IN IMCO SECRETARIAT AS HEAD OF LEGAL DIVISION AT LEAST FOR A TRANSITIONAL PERIOD DURING WHICH NEW SYG WOULD GET HIS BEARINGS.

ANNENBERG

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

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